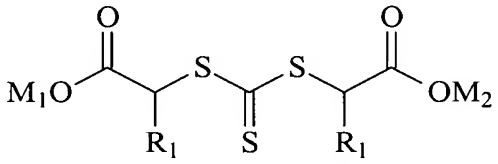
IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn): Compounds having a chemical structure in accordance with the following formula (I):



where R_1 designates an alkyl radical having 2 to 10 carbon atoms, an aromatic radical optionally substituted by an alkyl chain having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

and where M_1 and M_2 designate the hydrogen atom, an amine salt, ammonium or an alkaline cation, and are identical or different.

2. (Withdrawn): Compounds according to claim 1, wherein the amines are chosen from among the aliphatic and/or cyclic primary, secondary or tertiary amines including stearylamine, the ethanolamines (mono-, di-, triethanolamine), mono and diethylamine, cyclohexylamine, methylcyclohexylamine, amino methyl propanol and morpholine.

3. (Withdrawn): Compounds according to claim 1, wherein the alkaline cations are chosen from among sodium, potassium and lithium.

4. (Withdrawn): Compounds according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is an alkyl radical having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate the hydrogen atom, sodium or potassium.

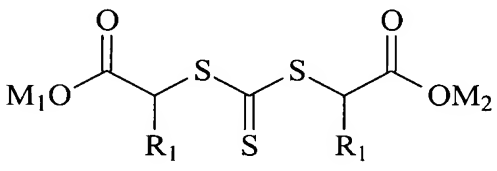
5. (Withdrawn): Compounds according to claim 4, wherein R_1 is an alkyl radical having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate the hydrogen atom or sodium.

6. (Withdrawn): Compounds according to claim 5, wherein R_1 is an alkyl radical having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate the hydrogen atom or sodium.

7. (Withdrawn): Compounds according to claim 6, wherein R_1 is the alkyl radical having 4 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate the hydrogen atom or sodium.

8. (Withdrawn): Compounds according to claim 7, wherein R_1 is the alkyl radical having 4 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate sodium.

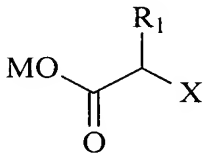
9. (Currently Amended): Process for manufacturing in water a compound ~~of formula (I) comprising the steps of:~~ having a chemical structure in accordance with the following formula (I):



where R_1 designates an alkyl radical having 2 to 10 carbon atoms, an aromatic radical optionally substituted by an alkyl chain having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

and where M_1 and M_2 designate a hydrogen atom, an amine salt, ammonium, sodium, lithium or potassium, and are identical or different, comprising:

a) ~~Bringing~~ bringing into contact by pouring an aqueous solution of disodic trithiocarbonate Na_2CS_3 or an aqueous solution of dipotassic trithiocarbonate K_2CS_3 on a solution of a halogenated salt, which salt has a chemical structure in accordance with the following formula (II):



where R_1 designates an alkyl radical having 2 to 10 carbon atoms, an aromatic radical optionally substituted by an alkyl chain having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

where M designates a hydrogen atom, an amine salt, ammonium, sodium, lithium or potassium ~~ammonium or an alkaline cation~~;

where X designates a halogen; and

b) ~~. b) and~~ acidification of the resulting compound after step a).

10. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 9, wherein the alkaline cations are ~~chosen from among~~ selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium and lithium.

11. (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 9, wherein R_1 is an alkyl radical having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, and M designates sodium or potassium.

12. (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 11, wherein R_1 is an alkyl

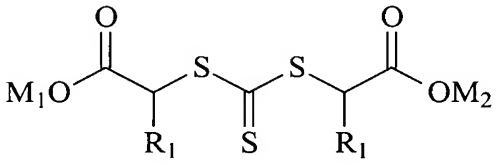
radical having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, and M designates sodium or potassium.

13. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 12, wherein R_1 is [[the]] an alkyl radical having 4 carbon atoms, and M designates sodium or potassium.

14. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 13, wherein R_1 is [[the]] an alkyl radical having 4 carbon atoms, and M designates sodium.

15. (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 9, wherein X designates bromine.

16. (Withdrawn): A method of using the compounds having chemical structure is in accordance with the following formula (I'):



where R_1 designates an alkyl radical having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an aromatic radical optionally substituted by an alkyl chain having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

and where M_1 and M_2 designate the hydrogen atom, an amine salt, ammonium or an alkaline cation, and are identical or different as transfer agents in a process of controlled radical polymerisation of the RAFT type in water, of homopolymers of acrylic acid and/or copolymers of acrylic acid with other water-soluble monomers.

17. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16, wherein the amines are chosen from

among the aliphatic and/or cyclic primary, secondary or tertiary amines such as stearylamine, the ethanolamines (mono-, di-, triethanolamine), mono and diethylamine, cyclohexylamine, methylcyclohexylamine, amino methyl propanol and morpholine.

18. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16, wherein the alkaline cations are chosen from among sodium, potassium and lithium.

19. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16, wherein R_1 is an alkyl radical having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate the hydrogen atom, sodium or potassium.

20. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 19, characterised in that R_1 is an alkyl radical having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate the hydrogen atom or sodium.

21. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 20, characterised in that R_1 is an alkyl radical having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate the hydrogen atom or sodium.

22. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 21, R_1 is the alkyl radical having 4 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate the hydrogen atom or sodium.

23. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 22, characterised in that R_1 is the alkyl radical having 4 carbon atoms, and M_1 and M_2 are identical and designate sodium.

24. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16 wherein the said process is accomplished in a continuous manner, in a batch or semi-batch manner.

25. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein the said process is accomplished in a batch or semi-batch manner.

26. (Withdrawn): Claim 16, wherein the said process is accomplished in a continuous manner, in a batch or semi-batch manner.